

WI-417

c. 1920 and later

Farmers and Planters Company

Salisbury

Private

Occupying a prominent location between the north branch of the Wicomico River and Mill Street is the Farmers and Planters Company, a commercial enterprise that has held a pivotal position in the business life of the lower Shore for over a century. Housed in a combination frame and concrete block complex erected during the early to mid twentieth century, the company has been located at this site since the land was acquired in 1920 from George E. Mitchell, who purchased the property from the Jackson family seventeen years earlier. Previous to its relocation to this site, the Farmers and Planters office and warehouse stood immediately east of the building now known as the Port Exchange. The office was housed in a two-story Gothic Revival brick structure that was previously part of the Humphreys and Tilghman complex.

A profile of the firm, written in 1908, described the Farmers and Planters Company:

Among the many big enterprises of Salisbury there is none that stands higher in her business life or keeps in closer touch with the builders and planters of the Eastern Shore than the Farmers' and Planters' Company, of which Mr. Glen Perdue is manager. For many years this company has been supplying the needs of thousands of patrons and they are familiar with the requirements of every kind of soil, and of every locality. The goods handled by them are of the very best and especially adapted to the Eastern Shore. The fertilizers are manufactured from formulas that years of experimenting have brought the best results in the products peculiar to the Peninsula.

With its relocation to the north branch of the Wicomico River next to the Fulton Station freight office of the Baltimore, Chesapeake & Atlantic railroad, the Farmers and Planters Company could take advantage of immediate water and rail transportation. Shortly after acquisition of the new Mill Street location, a multi-storied frame warehouse was erected in an architectural form not too dissimilar to the large sized barns designed in the general shape of a basilica. A multi-storied center block correlates to the center nave of the basilica, while long shed roofed sections to each side correspond to the side aisles. Clerestory windows above the sheds illuminate the center block. The main Farmers and Planters warehouse, covered with pressed metal sheets, has been extended with various additions over three-quarters of a century.

MARYLAND HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN INFORMATION

RESOURCE NAME: Farmers and Planters Company

MHT INVENTORY NUMBER: WI-417

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PLAN DATA

1. Historic Period Theme(s): Architecture
2. Geographic Orientation: Eastern Shore
3. Chronological/Development Period(s): Industrial-Urban Dominance
1870-1930
4. Resource Type(s): Warehouse and Office Complex

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. WI-417

Magi No.

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Farmers and Planters Company

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 210 Mill Street ☐ not for publication

city, town Salisbury ☐ vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Wicomico

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational <input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Farmers and Planters Company

street & number 210 Mill Street telephone no.:

city, town Salisbury state and zip code MD 21801

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Wicomico County Clerk of Court Map 106, P. 1653
liber 118

street & number Wicomico County Courthouse folio 515

city, town Salisbury state MD 21801

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. WI-417

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Farmers and Planters Company is located at 210 Mill Street, a site that is flanked by the north branch of the Wicomico River on the west and Mill Street on the east, in the center of Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland. US Route 50 passes directly south of the commercial block, and the old railroad bed of the Chesapeake, Baltimore, & Atlantic Railroad is located immediately east of Mill Street.

Built in stages beginning around 1920 and extending through the mid twentieth century, the main warehouse is a timber frame structure designed in the essential form of a basilica, not unlike the large sized barns that followed this shape as well. A center multi-storied main block, which corresponds to the nave of the church, is flanked by two story shed roofed sections that correlate to the side aisles. Supported on a concrete foundation, the timber frame warehouse is sheathed with a low pitched gable roof. The exterior is covered with pressed metal sheets.

The Mill Street side of the warehouse is an asymmetrical elevation with a shed roofed garage bay that extends from the gable end of the three-part main block. The shed addition was built against several gable end windows that have been boarded over. The gable end of the main block is marked by a symmetrical fenestration of six-over-six sash windows, several of which have been boarded over. The edge of the roof is finished with a slightly extended eave.

The north and south shed wings have been extended in various ways, but the side walls are pierced by a few remaining six-over-six sash windows. A series of six-over-six sash windows pierce north and south walls of the main block above the shed roofed wings. Extending from the south side of the frame warehouse is a two-story, flat-roofed concrete block addition that houses the company offices.

8. Significance

Survey No. WI-417

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Occupying a prominent location between the north branch of the Wicomico River and Mill Street is the Farmers and Planters Company, a commercial enterprise that has held a pivotal position in the business life of the lower Shore for over a century. Housed in a combination frame and concrete block complex erected during the early twentieth century, the company has been located at this site since it was acquired in September 1920 from George E. Mitchell,¹ who purchased the property from the Jackson family seventeen years earlier.² Previous to its relocation to this site, the Farmers and Planters office and warehouse stood immediately east of the building now known as the Port Exchange. The office was housed in a two-story Gothic Revival brick structure that was previously part of the Humphreys and Tilghman complex.³

A profile of the company, written in 1908, described the Farmers and Planters Company:

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¹ Wicomico County Land Record, 118/515, 29 September 1920.

² Wicomico County Land Record, JTT 34/455, 26 January 1903.

³ Wicomico County Land Record, JTT 12/244, 26 December 1893.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. WI-417

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

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Zone Easting NorthingB

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Zone Easting NorthingC

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification _____

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian

organization Private Consultant

date 3/10/99

street & number P. O. Box 5

telephone 410-651-1094

city or town Westover

state MD 21871

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DHCP/DHCD
100 COMMUNITY PLACE
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023
514-7600

8.1 SIGNIFICANCE

Farmers and Planters Company, WI-417
Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland

*brought the best results in the products peculiar to the Peninsula.*⁴

With its relocation to the north branch of the Wicomico River next to the Fulton Station freight office of the Baltimore, Chesapeake, and Atlantic railroad, the Farmers and Planters company could take advantage of immediate water and rail transportation. Shortly after acquisition of the new Mill Street location, a multi-storied frame warehouse was erected in an architectural form not too dissimilar to large-sized barns designed in the general shape of a basilica. A multi-storied center block correlates to the center nave of the basilica, while long shed roofed sections to each side correspond to the side aisles. Clerestory windows above the sheds illuminate the center block. The main Farmers and Planters warehouse, covered with pressed metal sheets, has been extended with various additions over three-quarters of a century.

⁴ *Wicomico News Historical and Industrial Edition*, August 1908.

WI-417
Farmers and Planters Company
210 Mill Street
Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland
Chain of title

Map 106, Parcel 1653

118/515 George E. Mitchell
 Minnie T. Mitchell

to

9/29/1920 The Farmers and Planters Company

JTT 34/455 Jackson Brothers Company

to

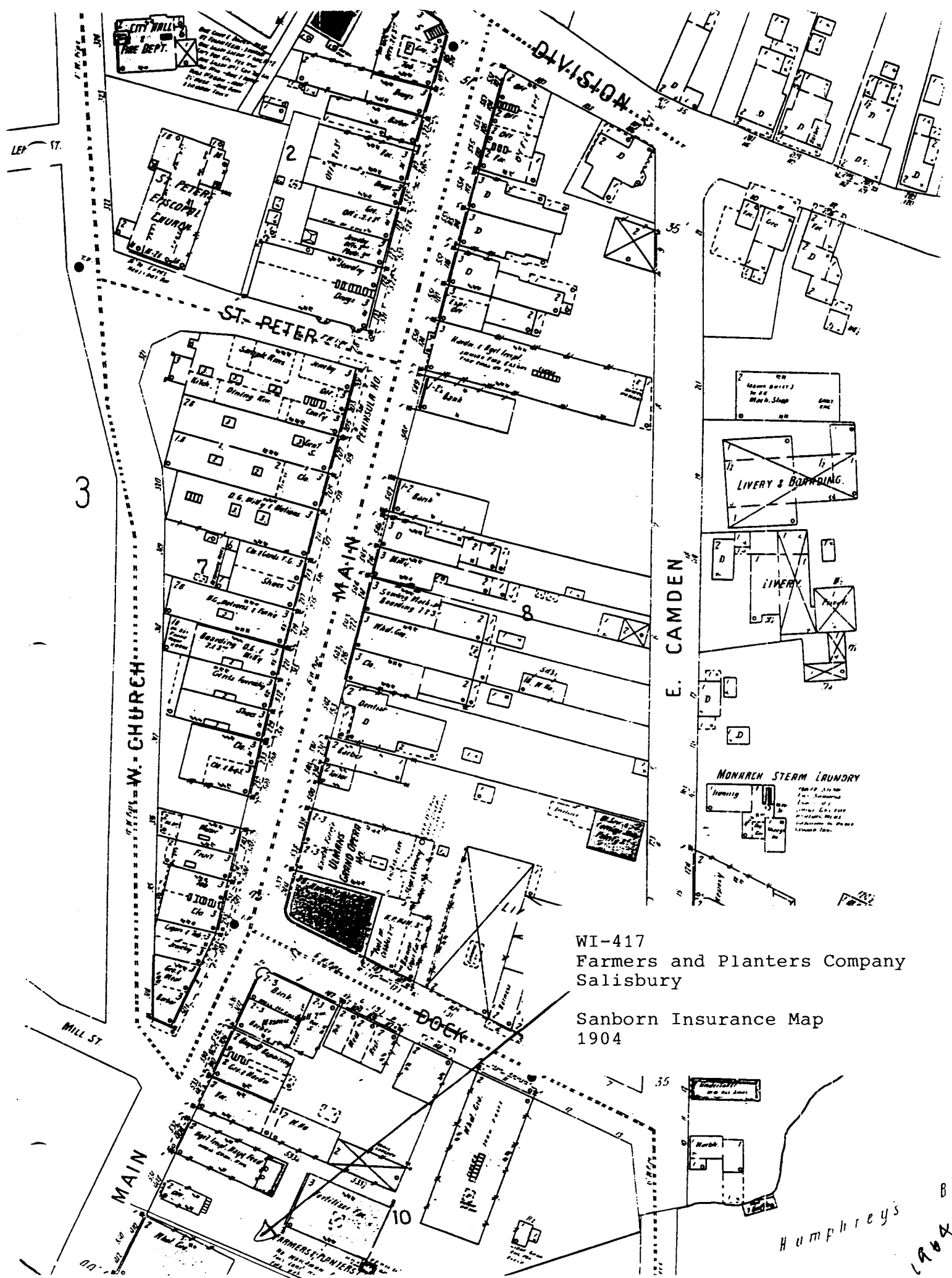
1/26/1903 George E. Mitchell

\$1,600

JTT 13/56 William H. Jackson
 William P. Jackson

to

6/8/1890 Jackson Brothers Company
\$55,600
First: Wharf property bounded on west side of Mill
Street, also on the east side of Mill Street known as
the Bunker Hill lot all the aforesaid property known
as Mill No. 1 of W. H. Jackson & Son

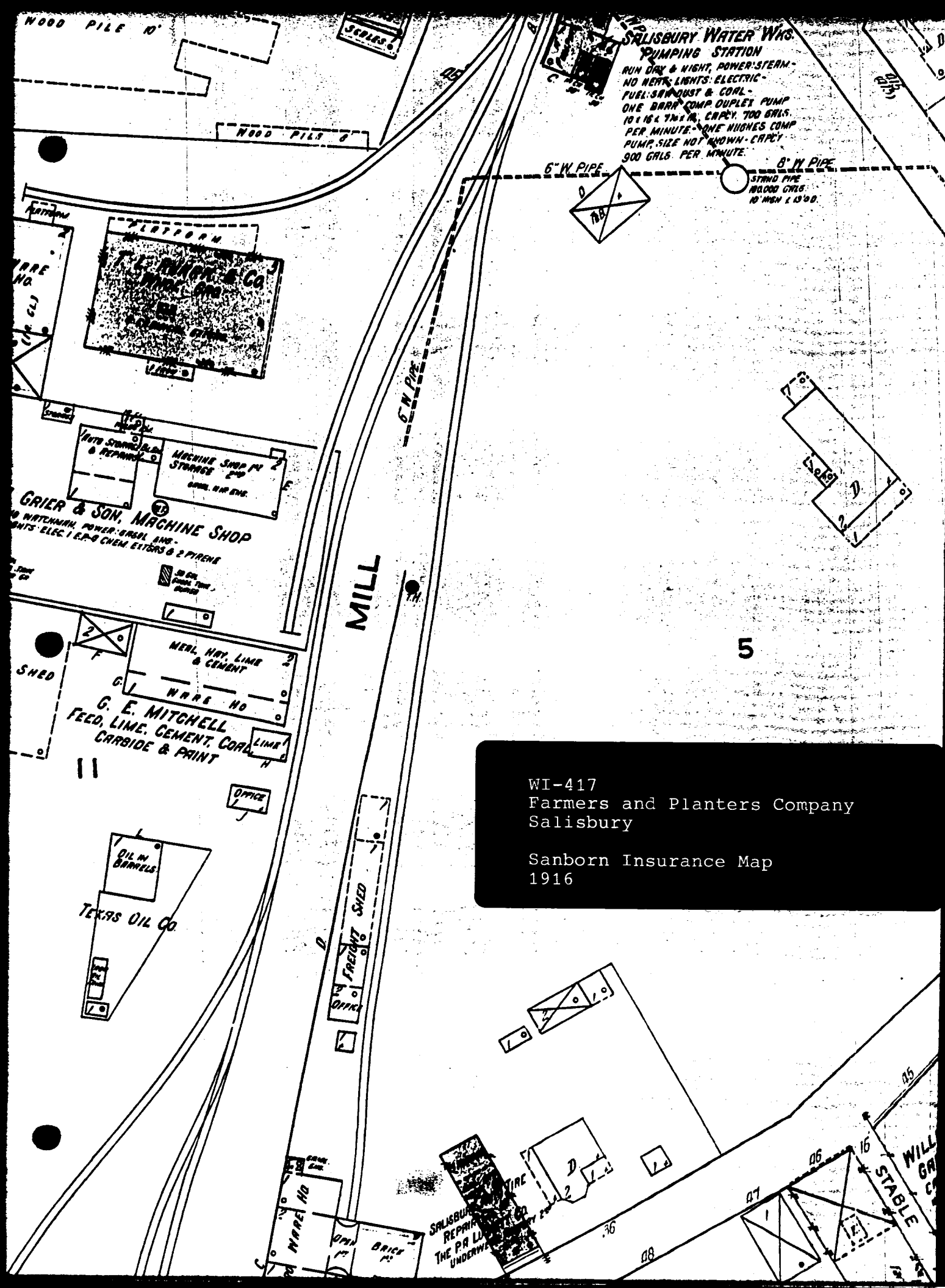


WI-417
Farmers and Planters Company
Salisbury

Sanborn Insurance Map
1904

Humphreys
1904

Sanborn Insurance Map, 1904



WI-417
Farmers and Planters Company
Salisbury

Sanborn Insurance Map
1916

W i c o m i c o R i v e r

WI-417
Farmers and Planters Company
Salisbury

Sanborn Insurance Map
1923

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

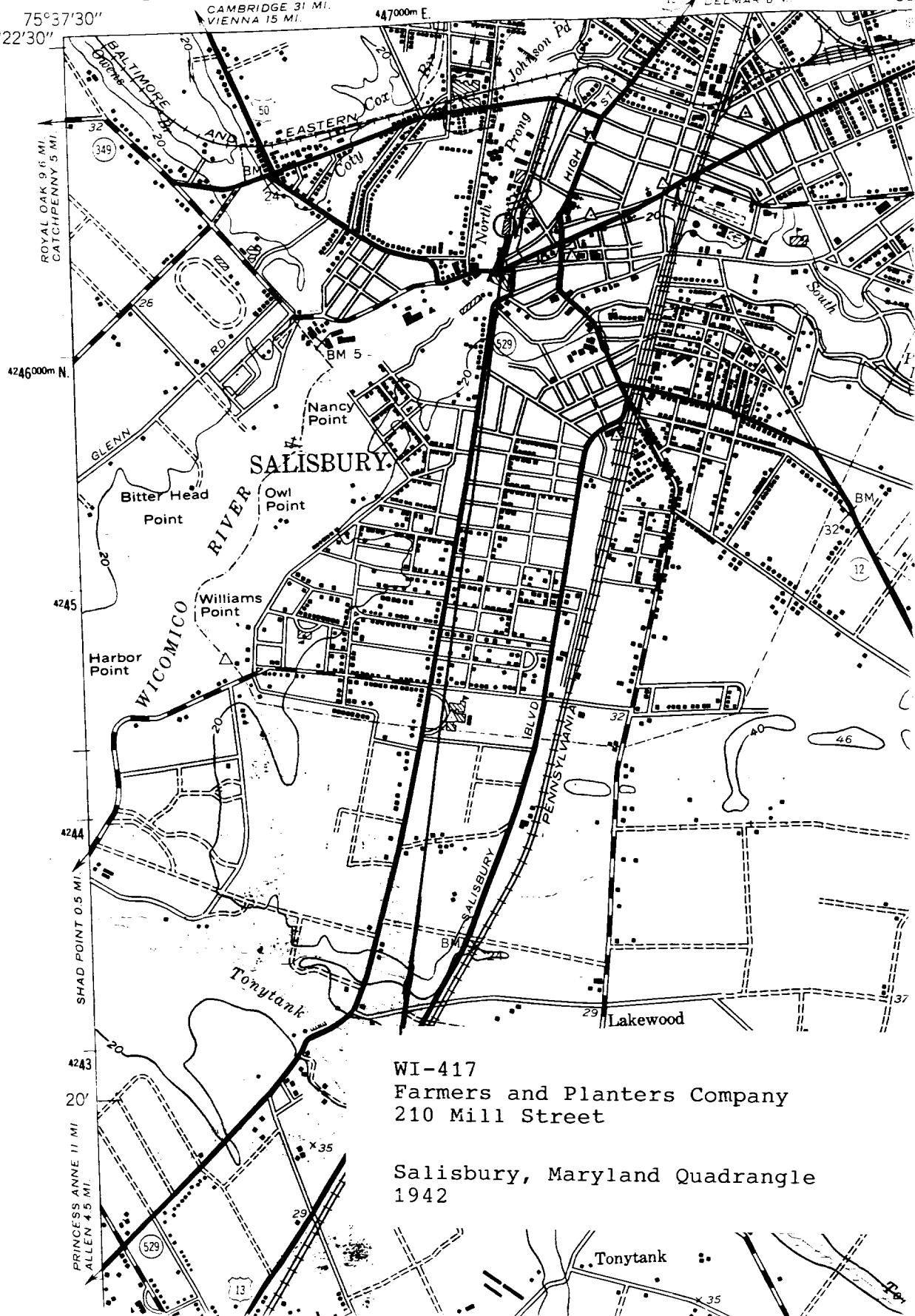
5860' NW
(HEBRON)

75°37'30"
38°22'30"

CAMBRIDGE 31 MI.
VIENNA 15 MI.

447000m E.

LAUREL 13 M
DELMAR 6 M



WI-417
Farmers and Planters Company
210 Mill Street

Salisbury, Maryland Quadrangle
1942



